
LEPP provides grants for body armor, fire arms, ammunition, electronic-control devices and electronic-control weapons to sworn peace officers and service animals. These funds are available to cities, counties, charter counties, unified counties, urban-counties, and consolidated local government police departments, public university safety and security departments, sheriff's departments, and school districts that employ special law enforcement officers as defined in KRS 61.900.



The men and women involved in law enforcement face some of the most significant challenges imaginable during the course of their careers. Therefore, it is important that these dedicated professionals have available to them the very best in protective equipment and gear .

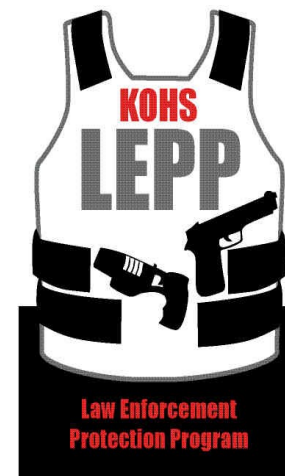
The Law Enforcement Protection Program enables KOHS to provide funds for these vital items to law enforcement agencies throughout the Commonwealth.



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Law Enforcement Protection Program



Bravery

Strength of mind in regard to danger; that quality which enables a man or woman to encounter danger with firmness; personal courage; valor; prowess; intrepidity.

Introduction

KRS 16.220 was amended in the 2008 regular session of the Kentucky General Assembly to transfer the program formerly known as “The Kentucky Body Armor Program” from the Department for Local Government to the Kentucky Office of Homeland Security. At the time of the transfer the name of the program was changed to the Law Enforcement Protection Program. This program is a joint collaboration between the Kentucky Office of Homeland Security and the Kentucky State Police.

Policy

KRS 16.220 establishes a fund within the Kentucky Office of Homeland Security to provide body armor, firearms, ammunition, electronic-control devices, electronic-control weapons or electro-muscular disruption technology to sworn peace officers and service animals, as defined in KRS 535.010, of city, county, charter county, unified county, urban-county and consolidated local government police department, university safety and security departments organized pursuant to KRS 164.950 and sheriff’s departments.

In awarding grants under this statute, the Kentucky Office of Homeland Security shall give first priority to providing and replacing body armor and second priority to providing firearms and ammunition, with residual funds available for the purchase of electronic-control weapons, or electro-muscular disruption technology. Body armor purchased using Law Enforcement Protection Program funds shall meet or exceed the standards issued by the National Institute of Justice for body armor. No police or sheriff’s department shall apply for a grant to replace existing body armor unless that body armor has been in actual use for a period of five (5) years or longer.

Procedure

- A. Application period: Applications will be accepted during the entire year using the form developed by the Kentucky Office of Homeland Security. The form is available on the KOHS website, www.homelandsecurity.ky.gov/LEPP, or by requesting a copy at KOHS’s office 502.564.2081.
- B. Applications will be reviewed quarterly by KOHS staff and, with the approval of the Governor, awarded based upon available funding. Per KRS 16.220 the following priorities will be used in awarding grants: (1) providing and replacing body armor; (2) providing duty firearms and ammunition, and (3) providing electronic-control devices.
- C. Funding:
 1. Body armor: This program will provide \$665 for each unit of body armor requested and/or awarded. The unit price is determined by the State Price Contract, which is updated each year on July 1.
 2. Duty firearms and ammunition: This program will provide funding for duty weapons, shotguns, and patrol rifles only. The program also will allow for the purchase of 500 rounds of ammunition for duty weapons awarded (100 shells — duty and 400 shells — practice) and 50 shells for shotguns. The applicant must provide a copy of bids for the weapons and ammunition to determine award amount. Only semi-automatic “patrol rifles” will be authorized — no specialty weapons such as full auto rifles, submachine guns or sniper rifles will be considered for funding.
 3. Electronic-control weapons: This program will provide funds for the purchase of electronic-control weapons (\$869 per unit plus \$159 for software). The applicant must provide a copy of bids for the device(s) to deter-

mine award amount using the State Price Contract, if applicable.

D. Upon approval, award recipients will receive notice of the amount of funds approved and a Memorandum of Agreement. Upon return of the executed document, it must be approved by the Finance and Administration Cabinet and the legislature’s Contract Review Subcommittee before KOHS can proceed with project implementation as detailed in the agreement.

E. Each award recipient is reimbursed after funds are expended and proper documentation is provided to the KOHS.

F. The KOHS continuously monitors and provides technical assistance for the award period of grants. Upon completion of the grant project, a final site visit may be conducted to verify compliance with the KOHS agreement.



Confiscated weapon sales proceeds have been instrumental in equipping law enforcement personnel with body armor and equipment which allows officers to better serve the citizens of Kentucky.

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